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## **Chem-Bio News – Pandemic Influenza Supplement #28**

### **1. NPA [NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY – JAPAN] RELEASES ACTION PLAN FOR FLU**

**PANDEMICS:** *"As soon as an outbreak is suspected, a special task force will be set up at the NPA and the prime minister's office, where NPA officials will be dispatched."*

**2. HOW TELCOS AND ISPS ARE PREPPING FOR A PANDEMIC:** *"During a panel sponsored by the FCC in Washington, D.C., Thursday, representatives from telecom carriers and ISPs discussed what steps they've been taking to prepare for the mass outbreak of a disease such as influenza, and also described the needs and challenges they would have to meet to keep communications up and running during a major global crisis."*

**3. NEW TYPE OF INFLUENZA HEADING TO UKRAINE:** *"The infection will be a combination of viral strains A – "Brisben 1" [sic – Brisbane-1], "Brisben 2" [sic – Brisbane-2], and "Florida"."*

**4. REPORT SUGGESTS REFOCUSING US PANDEMIC VACCINE EFFORTS:** *"The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) suggests in a new report that an increased focus on the development of vaccine adjuvants could save the US government money while improving the nation's preparedness for an influenza pandemic."*

### **5. SINOVAC LAUNCHES SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINE ANFLU(R) FOR 2008-2009**

**FLU SEASON:** *"Developed and manufactured by Sinovac, Anflu(R) is the only split influenza vaccine produced without preservatives in China."*

**6. TOWARD A BROADLY PROTECTIVE INFLUENZA VACCINE:** *".....people who have not been exposed to avian influenza A (H5N1) viruses have cross-reactive CD8+ T cell memory to a wide range of H5N1 peptides..... These peptides could be used to add a CD8+ T cell component to current antibody-focused vaccine strategies with a view to reducing the impact of infection with novel influenza A viruses."*

# **CB Daily Report**

### **NPA [NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY – JAPAN] RELEASES ACTION PLAN FOR FLU PANDEMICS**

Kyodo News in The Japan Times  
September 19, 2008

“As soon as an outbreak is suspected, a special task force will be set up at the NPA and the prime minister's office, where NPA officials will be dispatched.

Police will then be equipped with masks and other protective gear while working with medical institutions so vaccines can be given to health care officials and others most likely to be exposed to a new flu outbreak.

The plan also calls for riot police to be mobilized around airports, harbors and hospitals. They will also strengthen patrol and security checks in coastal areas to prevent people who might be infected from illegally entering the country to prevent a disease from spreading.”

The full article can be found at: <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nn20080919f4.html>

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### **HOW TELCOS AND ISPS ARE PREPPING FOR A PANDEMIC**

By Brad Reed  
NetworkWorld  
September 18, 2008

“During a panel sponsored by the FCC in Washington, D.C., Thursday, representatives from telecom carriers and ISPs discussed what steps they've been taking to prepare for the mass outbreak of a disease such as influenza, and also described the needs and challenges they would have to meet to keep communications up and running during a major global crisis. The most important tool at ISPs' disposal during a serious pandemic, panelists agreed, was that of network management.”

“Network management and network grooming will absolutely come into play if we have a significant number of people living in shelters or staying at home to work,” he [Christopher Guttman-McCabe, the vice president for regulatory affairs for the CTIA wireless association] said. “A pandemic is rather similar to the aftermath of what happens during a natural disaster such as a hurricane. Carriers need to determine where public safety needs the most help, and also where key 911 facilities and key hospitals are located. From there they can boost key cellular signals depending on the circumstances.”

“Robert Mayer, the vice president of industry and state affairs for the US Telecom Association, said carriers and ISPs would face significant difficulties in limiting the amount of high-bandwidth traffic that occurred in residential areas during a pandemic. Because residential areas are out of the control of corporate IT departments and aren't equipped with

the same traffic-shaping capabilities as enterprise networks, Mayer said carriers would either have to directly interfere with Web traffic or at least educate people on what they should and should not be downloading during national emergencies.

In particular, Mayer said people would have to be told not to stream videos or use peer-to-peer technology that could clog the local network and prevent basic communications such as e-mail from getting through."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2008/091808-telcos-pandemic.html?hpg1=bn>

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## **NEW TYPE OF INFLUENZA HEADING TO UKRAINE**

Unian.net

September 19, 2008

"This winter a new type of influenza is expected to come in Ukraine. Professor Arkadiy Frolov, director of the Ukrainian Influenza Center, said this in an interview with Segodnya newspaper. The infection will be a combination of viral strains A – "Brisben 1" [sic – Brisbane-1], "Brisben 2" [sic – Brisbane-2], and "Florida". Ukrainians have already encountered the last two viral strains, but Brisben 1 is a new kind of influenza for Ukraine."

The full article can be found at: <http://unian.net/eng/news/news-273867.html>

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## **REPORT SUGGESTS REFOCUSING US PANDEMIC VACCINE EFFORTS**

By Lisa Schnirring and Robert Roos

CIDRAP News (Center for Infectious Disease Research & Policy – University of Minnesota)

September 22, 2008

"The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) suggests in a new report that an increased focus on the development of vaccine adjuvants could save the US government money while improving the nation's preparedness for an influenza pandemic.

Noting that the government has been spending large amounts to increase egg-based flu vaccine production capacity and develop cell-based production capacity, the CBO says it might be wise to shift some funds into the development of adjuvants (chemicals that reduce the amount of vaccine needed to generate an immune response).

"The arithmetic of pandemic vaccination changes dramatically . . . if adjuvanted vaccines are developed and approved," says the report. If adjuvants fulfill their promise, it adds, the egg-based and cell-based production facilities now available or under construction would be enough to meet HHS's goal of vaccinating every US resident within 6 months of the start of

a pandemic.

The CBO published its findings on Sep 15. The 52-page report gauges progress the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has made since 2005, when it outlined two main vaccine goals in its pandemic plan: to increase production capacity by 2011 to vaccinate the entire US population within 6 months of a pandemic onset and to stockpile enough vaccine to inoculate 20 million people shortly after a pandemic begins."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/panflu/news/sep2208cbo.html>

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## **SINOVAC LAUNCHES SEASONAL INFLUENZA VACCINE ANFLU(R) FOR 2008-2009 FLU SEASON**

Hospital Business Week  
September 28, 2008

"Developed and manufactured by Sinovac, Anflu(R) is the only split influenza vaccine produced without preservatives in China."

"Over the past year, Sinovac has expanded its manufacturing capacity with the construction of a pandemic influenza vaccine production line with annual capacity of 20 million doses using the grant from China's National Development and Reform Commission. The production line includes state-of-the-art automated production equipment along with an expanded packaging capability and affords Sinovac the ability to produce up to five million doses of Anflu(R). By leveraging the latest production technology, the quality of the Anflu vaccine will be enhanced."

Link not available.

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## **TOWARD A BROADLY PROTECTIVE INFLUENZA VACCINE**

By Peter C. Doherty and Anne Kelso  
The Journal of Clinical Investigation  
September 23, 2008

"The current inactivated influenza virus vaccines induce antibodies that protect against closely related virus strains. They do not, however, protect against antibody-escape variants of seasonal influenza A viruses or new pandemic influenza A viruses emerging from non-human reservoirs. Might boosting influenza A virus-specific CD8+ T cell memory diminish the danger posed by these variant viruses? Pre-existing CD8+ T cell-mediated immunity directed at peptides from conserved internal proteins of the influenza A virus does not prevent infection, but it can promote early virus clearance and decrease morbidity in mice.

In this issue of the JCI, Lee et al. show that people who have not been exposed to avian influenza A (H5N1) viruses have cross-reactive CD8+ T cell memory to a wide range of H5N1 peptides (see the related article, doi:10.1172/JCI32460). These peptides could be used to add a CD8+ T cell component to current antibody-focused vaccine strategies with a view to reducing the impact of infection with novel influenza A viruses."

The full article can be found at: <http://www.jci.org/articles/view/37232>

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